



# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CHP Wins Discrimination Case**

LOS ANGELES--The California Highway Patrol (CHP) won a significant jury verdict today in a lengthy employment discrimination trial being conducted in federal court in Los Angeles.

The class action suit was brought by former CHP Lt. Jeff Paige. At the conclusion of the trial, the jurors found that the CHP acted fairly in its promotional practices and that the department did not discriminate against Paige, an African American, or ethnic minorities in promotions and job assignments. The class action suit was brought by Lieutenant Jeff Paige. The jury also found that Paige was not discriminated against in his unsuccessful efforts to be promoted to captain, nor was he discriminated against in job assignments.

"We're relieved that this 11-year case has finally been resolved," said CHP Commissioner D.O. "Spike" Helmick. "The unanimous jury verdict validates what we've been saying all along--the CHP does not discriminate on the basis of race or national origin when employees seek assignments or promotions."

Helmick thanked the members of the federal jury and the court for their service. "These are not easy issues to resolve, and we appreciate their diligence and commitment to justice."

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The CHP has a good record in the promotion of minorities, Helmick said. As of July 1 2003, 31.6% of the deputy chiefs, 23.79% of the assistant chiefs, 22.8% of the captains and 26.2% of the lieutenants are ethnic minorities.

“The CHP has made great strides in hiring and promoting a racially diverse workforce. We hope this verdict will put to an end the divisive rhetoric and allow us to move forward as one cohesive department,” Helmick said.

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